

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Attorney Docket No.: RPS920010005US1

In re Application of:

RENGAN ET AL.

Serial No.: 09/904,622

Filed: 13 JULY 2001

For: DISPLAY PRIVACY FOR
ENHANCED PRESENTATIONS WITH
REAL-TIME UPDATES

Examiner: NGUYEN, K.

Art Unit: 2674

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APPEAL BRIEF

MS Appeal Brief-Patents
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Sir:

The present Brief is submitted in support of the Appeal in the above-identified application.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS	2
REAL PARTY IN INTEREST	3
RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES	3
STATUS OF THE CLAIMS	3
STATUS OF AMENDMENTS	3
SUMMARY OF THE CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER	3
GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL	4
ARGUMENT	4
I. The claimed invention uses a single video display controller while <i>Wicher</i> uses two video display controllers	4
II. Neither <i>Wicher</i> nor <i>Singhal</i> teaches or suggests the claimed step of providing identical information to said first and second memory locations	5
CLAIMS APPENDIX	8

REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The present application is assigned to International Business Machines Corporation, the real party of interest.

RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

No related appeal is presently pending.

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-7 and 24-37, which were finally rejected by the Examiner as noted in the Final Office Action dated November 1, 2004 and in the Advisory Action dated December 29, 2004, are being appealed.

STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

An Amendment after Final was submitted on December 29, 2004 in response to the Final Office Action dated November 1, 2004.

SUMMARY OF THE CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

As recited in Claim 1 (and similarly in Claims 24 and 31), a first memory location is allocated for storing contents to be displayed by a first display device (page 11, lines 21-23; block 406 of Figure 4). The first memory location is accessible by a video display controller (page 9, lines 10-19). In addition, a second memory location is allocated for storing contents to be displayed by a second display device (page 12, lines 17-20; block 418 of Figure 4). Similarly, the second memory location is accessible by the video display controller (page 9, lines 10-19).

In response to a selection of a concurrent display mode, identical information are provided to the first and second memory locations, such that contents displayed on the first display device are identical to contents displayed on the second display device (page 12, lines 2-7; block 414 of Figure 4). In response to a selection of a split display mode, information in the first memory location are retained, and information in the second memory location are updated, such that

contents displayed on the first display device are different from contents displayed on the second display device (page 12, lines 15-22; block 422 of Figure 4).

GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

The Examiner's rejection of Claims 1-2, 4, 6-7, 24-25, 27, 29-32, 34 and 36-37 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Wicher et al.* (US 5,977,933) in view of *Singhal et al.* (US 5,488,385).

ARGUMENT

The Examiner's rejections of Claims 1-2, 4, 6-7, 24-25, 27, 29-32, 34 and 36-37 are not well-founded and should be reversed.

I. The claimed invention uses a single video display controller while *Wicher* uses two video display controllers

Claim 1 (and similarly Claims 24 and 31) recites a step of "allocating a first memory location for storing contents to be displayed by said first display device, wherein said first memory location is accessible by a video display controller" and a step of "allocating a second memory location for storing contents to be displayed by said second display device, wherein said second memory location is accessible by said video display controller." Thus, according to Claim 1, only a single video display controller is utilized to control two memory locations.

In contrast, *Wicher* teaches a first display controller connected to a single video memory for driving a cathode ray tube (CRT) or a television display via a digital-to-analog converter (col. 8, line 65 -col. 9, line 4) and a second display controller connected to the same video memory for driving a flat panel display via a flat panel display interface (col. 9, lines 5-11). Thus, according to *Wicher*, two video display controllers are utilized to control one single video memory for driving the CRT or television display and the flat panel display (col. 9, lines 11-14).

Hence, the claimed single video display controller configuration for simultaneously controlling two memory locations is distinguishable from *Wicher*'s two display controller

configuration. Because the claimed invention recites novel features that are not taught or suggested in the cited references, whether considered separately or in combination, the § 103 rejection is improper.

II. Neither *Wicher* nor *Singhal* teaches or suggests the claimed step of providing identical information to said first and second memory locations

Claim 1 (and similarly Claims 24 and 31) recites a step of "in response to a selection of a concurrent display mode, providing identical information to said first and second memory locations, such that contents displayed on said first display device are identical to contents displayed on said second display device."

On page 3 of the Final Office Action, the Examiner states that *Wicher* does not disclose identical information being provided to a first and second memory locations as recited in Claim 1. However, the Examiner then asserts that *Singhal* discloses "in response to a selection of a concurrent display mode, retaining information in said first memory location (24) and an inherent updating information in said second memory location (24')." The Examiner then concludes that it would have been obvious to "implement the first and the second memory locations of the first and second display as taught by *Singhal* et al. into the system of *Wicher* et al. because this would [sic] for providing the display subsystem function completely independent of one another."

The Examiner's reasoning and conclusion for combining the teachings of *Wicher* and *Singhal* are unclear to Appellants. After a careful survey of the teachings of *Singhal*, specifically the description related to Figure 1 beginning from col. 4, line 3 to col. 5, line 17, it is clear that *Singhal* does not teach or suggest that identical information being provided to a first and second memory locations. Thus, the Examiner still has not provide any support from *Singhal* that *Singhal* teaches or suggests the claimed step of "in response to a selection of a concurrent display mode, providing identical information to said first and second memory locations, such that contents displayed on said first display device are identical to contents displayed on said second display device." Because the claimed invention recites novel features that are not taught or

suggested in the cited references, whether considered separately or in combination, the § 103 rejection is improper.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons stated above, Appellants believe that the claimed invention clearly is patentably distinct over the cited references and that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 are not well-founded. Hence, Appellants respectfully urge the Board to reverse the Examiner's rejection.

Respectfully submitted,



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CLAIMS APPENDIX

1. A method for providing display control on a computer system having a first display device and a second display device, said method comprising:

allocating a first memory location for storing contents to be displayed by said first display device, wherein said first memory location is accessible by a video display controller;

allocating a second memory location for storing contents to be displayed by said second display device, wherein said second memory location is accessible by said video display controller;

in response to a selection of a concurrent display mode, providing identical information to said first and second memory locations, such that contents displayed on said first display device are identical to contents displayed on said second display device; and

in response to a selection of a split display mode, retaining information in said first memory location and updating information in said second memory location, such that contents displayed on said first display device are different from contents displayed on said second display device.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said providing identical information further includes providing information from a frame buffer to said first and second memory locations.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein said updating information further includes
 - allocating a second frame buffer; and
 - providing information from said second frame buffer to said second memory location while providing information from said frame buffer to said first memory location.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein said providing identical information further includes setting a pointer pointing from a frame buffer to said first and second memory locations.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein said updating information further includes
 - allocating a second frame buffer; and
 - setting a second pointer pointing from said second frame buffer to said second memory location and setting said pointer pointing from said frame buffer to said first memory location.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein said first display device is external from said computer system and said second display device is internal to said computer system.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein said selection between said concurrent display mode and said split display mode are made via a soft key function.

8-23. cancelled.

24. A computer program product for providing display control on a computer system having a first display device and a second display device, said computer program product comprising:

program code means for allocating a first memory location for storing contents to be displayed by said first display device, wherein said first memory location is accessible by a video display controller;

program code means for allocating a second memory location for storing contents to be displayed by said second display device, wherein said second memory location is accessible by said video display controller;

program code means for providing identical information to said first and second memory locations, in response to a selection of a concurrent display mode, such that contents displayed on said first display device are identical to contents displayed on said second display device; and

program code means for retaining information in said first memory location and updating information in said second memory location, in response to a selection of a split display mode, such that contents displayed on said first display device are different from contents displayed on said second display device.

25. The computer program product of claim 24, wherein said program code means for providing identical information further includes program code means for providing information from a frame buffer to said first and second memory locations.

26. The computer program product of claim 25, wherein said program code means for updating information further includes

program code means for allocating a second frame buffer; and

program code means for providing information from said second frame buffer to said second memory location while providing information from said frame buffer to said first memory location.

27. The computer program product of claim 24, wherein said program code means for providing identical information further includes program code means for setting a pointer pointing from a frame buffer to said first and second memory locations.

28. The computer program product of claim 27, wherein said program code means for updating information further includes

program code means for allocating a second frame buffer; and

program code means for setting a second pointer pointing from said second frame buffer to said second memory location and setting said pointer pointing from said frame buffer to said first memory location.

29. The computer program product of claim 24, wherein said first display device is external from said computer system and said second display device is internal to said computer system.

30. The computer program product of claim 24, wherein said selections between said concurrent display mode and said split display mode are made via a soft key function.

31. An apparatus for providing display control on a computer system having a first display device and a second display device, said apparatus comprising:

means for allocating a first memory location for storing contents to be displayed by said first display device, wherein said first memory location is accessible by a video display controller;

means for allocating a second memory location for storing contents to be displayed by said second display device, wherein said second memory location is accessible by said video display controller;

means for providing identical information to said first and second memory locations, in response to a selection of a concurrent display mode, such that contents displayed on said first display device are identical to contents displayed on said second display device; and

means for retaining information in said first memory location and updating information in said second memory location, in response to a selection of a split display mode, such that contents displayed on said first display device are different from contents displayed on said second display device.

32. The apparatus of claim 31, wherein said means for providing identical information further includes means for providing information from a frame buffer to said first and second memory locations.

33. The apparatus of claim 32, wherein said means for updating information further includes

means for allocating a second frame buffer; and

means for providing information from said second frame buffer to said second memory location while providing information from said frame buffer to said first memory location.

34. The apparatus of claim 31, wherein said means for providing identical information further includes means for setting a pointer pointing from a frame buffer to said first and second memory locations.

35. The apparatus of claim 34, wherein said means for updating information further includes

means for allocating a second frame buffer; and

means for setting a second pointer pointing from said second frame buffer to said second memory location and setting said pointer pointing from said frame buffer to said first memory location.

36. The apparatus of claim 31, wherein said first display device is external from said computer system and said second display device is internal to said computer system.

37. The apparatus of claim 31, wherein said selections between said concurrent display mode and said split display mode are made via a soft key function.